



AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A. I. D. MISSION TO EL SALVADOR

REGIONAL CONTRACTS AND GRANTS OFFICE

May 31, 2002

**SUBJECT: Amendment No. 1
Request for Application (RFA)
El Salvador RFA Number 519-02-A-012,
Municipal Disaster Mitigation.**

The purpose of this solicitation amendment is to address issues raised before submission of subject applications. Please make note of the changes and notify USAID/EL Salvador that you have received this Amendment No.1 to the subject RFA.

Question 1:

Will USAID/El Salvador consider applications for working with less than 30 municipalities or must the application include the full 30 municipalities.

Answer

USAID/El Salvador expects the application to include the full 30 municipalities.

Question 2:

Will USAID/El Salvador consider applications for working with some of the objectives or must the application address all 4 objectives.

Answer

It is expected that the application will address all four objectives.

Question 3:

Has USAID/El Salvador prioritized the 30 municipalities or should the applicant select the 30 municipalities based on criteria it determines to be reasonable.

Answer

USAID/El Salvador has not prioritized the 30 municipalities nor have they been pre-selected. Page 18 of the RFA defines the broad geographic areas as the departments of San Vicente, Usulután, La Paz, La Libertad, Ahuachapán, Sonsonate, and Cuscatlán.

Question 4:

Can USAID/El Salvador provide applicants a list of the communities and municipalities where the current CAMI program is being implemented?

Answer

The list of communities and municipalities where current Central American Mitigation Initiative (CAMI) programs are being implemented follows:

<u>Departamento</u>	<u>Municipio</u>	<u>Comunidad.</u>
Usulután	Usulután	El Ojuste
		San Jaime
	Santiago de María	El Modelo
		Barrio El Centro
		Monte Bello I
		El Nao
		El Cerrito (Las Playitas)
Usulután	Jiquilisco	Isla de Méndez
		El Aguacate
		El Llano
		El Conacaste
	San Juan del Gozo	San Juan del Gozo
		Los Conventos
		La Plancha
		San Martín
		Presidio Liberado
		La Gaveta
		Amando López
		La Chacastera
		Octavio Ortiz
		El Marillo 1
		El Naranjo 1
		El Naranjo 2
		Las Arañas
		Montemar
		La Casona
		Las Mesitas
		La Canoita

		Los Caliz
		La Babilonia
		Los Lotes
		El Zamorán Centro
		Camilo Turcios/El Cedro
		Nuevo Amanecer
		Ciudad Romero
		Nueva Esperanza
		La Limonera
		La Pichichera
		31 de Diciembre
		29 de Junio
		Wilber Mendoza
		Vientos Marinos
		San Marcos Lempa Centro
		La Papalota
		Mata de Piña
		La Caseta
		Valle el Mono
		Rio Roldan
		Las Flores
	Santa Elena	Joya Ancha Arriba
		Joya Ancha Abajo
		El Volcán
		Las Cruces
Usulután	Santa Elena	El Nisperal
		El Amate
San Vicente	San Vicente	Caserío San José
		Barrio Concepción
		Agua Caliente
		San Francisco Tehuacán
		San Antonio Caminos
	San Lorenzo	San Lorenzo/Casco
		Los Cubías
		San Francisco
		Loma de la Cruz
		San Francisquito
		Col. Guadalupe
La Paz	Zacatecoluca	San Luis Talpa
		San Rafael
		Santa Lucía
		Tepechame
		El Pajal
San Salvador	San Salvador	Valle de Oro
		El Carmen
		Las Lajas
		Nuevo Israel
	Ciudad Delgado	Col. Saprisa
		Lot. San Sebastian
	Cuscatancingo	Col. Veracruz
Sonsonate	San Julián	Col. Guadalupe

Villa Italia
Agua Shuca
Parcelación San José
Azacualpa

Question 5:

Does USAID have a formal agreement or commitment from the COEN to support the execution of this program?

Answer

No formal agreement has been signed between USAID and COEN. However this activity has been planned with COEN and COEN is committed to working with the awardee.

Question 6:

Should the application include a Commitment Letter stating that the COEN will support our organization in implementing this proposal if awarded?

Answer

No commitment letter is necessary. COEN is committed to work with the awardee.

Question 7:

Does USAID have established maximum amounts that the Prime Recipient can provide its sub-grantees under this application?

Answer

No, USAID does not establish a maximum amount that the Prime Recipient can provide its sub-grantees.

Question 8:

Regarding Current and Past Performance References (PPRs) (A.4, p.4). The RFA requests the proposed primary recipient's "evaluation of the proposed subawardees/partners past performance" Does this imply that the subawardee should submit PPR in the same form and format as the primary recipient (complete with contact information, award value, etc.) or is this implying a separate and distinct manner of presenting and evaluating subawardee performance, whereby the prime evaluates the subawardee?

Answer

Subawardee should submit PPR in the same form and format as the primary recipient.

The RFA states on page #4 that applicants must provide a list with grant, cooperative agreement, or contract numbers, awarding institution (name and address), and points of contact (names and telephone numbers). Also, include award amount and a short description of the Project.

Question 9:

Regarding Current and Past Performance References, is there a minimum or maximum number of PPRs that should be provided by the proposed primary recipient and any/all proposed subrecipients? Is there a preferred standard format for this submission? We only ask as PPRs are sometimes included as an annex so as not count against page limitations.

Answer

There is no a minimum or maximum number of past PPRs established.

The preferred standard format for the submission of the PPRs is given on page #4 of the RFA.

The past performance references must be relevant to the same type of program stated in the RFA. You should follow the instructions stated in the RFA, page #4: 3 pages recommended for this section.

Question 10:

In Section 5, Management plan (p.5) reference is made to a "detailed work plan." Is this distinct from the action plan and timeline discussed in Section 7, Technical Approach?

Answer

USAID El Salvador is pleased to clarify these expectations. A detailed work plan is expected that will outline the specific tasks of the first year. This is described in the instructions for Management Plan, page 5. On the other hand, a general action plan is expected that would outline activities for the life of the program, approximately two and half years. This is described in the instructions for Technical Approach, page 5. The results to be achieved should be linked to a time frame in the general action plan. This action plan is not expected to be as detailed as the above mentioned first year work plan.

Question 11:

USAID requests CVs for key personnel. Will USAID clarify the maximum amount of key personnel the offerers should document?

Answer

No maximum amount of key personnel is established. This will depend of the design of the proposal.

Question 12:

In the cost proposal instructions (B, p.5) it is indicated that 82% of funding would be dedicated to strengthening of plans, and 18% for equipment and training. Is there a background document that discusses the reason for the proposed division?

Answer

No.

Question 13:

The RFA notes that some communities prepared mitigation plans after Hurricane Mitch in 1998. Which communities prepared mitigation plans, and under what auspices? Are these plans available?

Answer

See Information in Annex 1.

Question 14:

Can an estimate be given as to when the orthophoto maps being prepared by the USGS are expected to be available for the Program and for what municipalities?

Answer

The orthophoto maps are currently being prepared. They should be ready near the beginning of the activity.

Question 15:

Will the recipient be expected to produce risk maps or will the recipient be able to request that USGS produce all necessary maps?

Answer

The recipient will be responsible to produce risk maps as part of the technical assistance to the municipalities. Use of USGS maps, where available, is encouraged. Broad USGS risk maps exist for Berlin, Jiquilisco, San Miguel, San Vicente, Santa Tecla, San Salvador, Usulután, Cojutepeque, part of Comasagua, La Palma, San Rafael Cedros, Candelaria, Santa Cruz Analquito, San Emigdio, Paraíso de Osorio, Verapáz, and Tepetitán. The recipient may use these maps as a basis for further refinement for the municipalities as necessary.

Question 16:

COEN and the current national emergency management system recognize the importance of departamental committees for risk management in El Salvador. Should more focus be given to the departamental level for the Program?

Answer

Integrated disaster mitigation plans must recognize the coordination at the national, departmental, municipal and community levels. However, this planned activity hopes to strengthen the national and municipal level efforts, with particular emphasis on the municipal level.

Questions 17:

Objective 2 on page 19 of the RFA addresses land use and development planning. Can USAID define the anticipated extent of the land use and development planning necessary to fulfil the requirements of this objective?

Answer

The applicants should propose activities for how they will develop land use plans.

Question 18:

Can a Non US NGO apply for this RFA?

Answer

No. This RFA is open only to US NGOs as the prime recipient.

Question 19:

Is there additional guidance as to what specifically the donor seeks in the primary recipient's "evaluation of the proposed subawardees past performance?" The RFA requests that applicants "provide grant, cooperative agreement or contract

numbers." Is there a maximum number that should be submitted? Should they be region or sector-specific?

Answer

Same as answer of question 8. Yes, it should be region and sector-specific.

Question 20:

Is the "work plan" referred to in Section 5 the same as the "action plan" referred to in Section 7?

Answer

Same as answer of question 10.

Question 21:

Is there a preferred template for the "letters of commitment" required of key personnel?

There is no a preferred template for the letters of commitment required of Key Personnel. As long as you comply with the requirements established in Section 6, page 6 of the RFA.

Question 22:

Objective 1, page 18 aims to "strengthen key organizations involved in El Salvador's national emergency system." Can USAID clarify what type of "key organizations" are eligible for assistance under this agreement?

Answer

The key organizations that will be the beneficiaries of this agreement include COEN, municipal emergency committees, and to some extent community and departmental emergency committees. This activity is not intended to benefit non-governmental organizations with a disaster response mandate.

Question 23:

Does the RFA permit "staggered" implementation of the municipal disaster mitigation/land use plans? That is, may the recipient work with 15 municipalities the first year, and the remaining 15 the second years?

Answer

The recipient is expected to define/develop its action plan with results to be achieved within a time frame. This staggered implementation is permitted.

Question 24:

Request a time extension to permit additional consultation with our local partners and conduct site visits.

Answer

The closing date to receive the applications remain the same as specified in the RFA - "June 12, 2002" Closing Time: 4:00PM San Salvador Time.

Sincerely,

Beth S. Paige
Regional Agreement Officer
USAID/El Salvador

Attachments:
Annex I.